Islands Trust

PROVINCIAL COOPERATION AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGE REQUESTS
MARCH, 2005
(draft)

"The object of the Trust is to preserve and protect the Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Trust Area and of British Columbia generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia."

Islands Trust Policy Statement Reference*	Current Issue(s)	Relevant Provincial Legislation or Program	Request	Status
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES				
4.2.2 It is the position of Trust Council that sustainable forestry depends on maintaining and, where necessary, restoring the ecological integrity of forests. *4.2.5 It is the position of Trust Council that the aesthetic value of forest land should be protected.* *4.2.8 Trust Council encourages the Provincial government to adopt mechanisms that will ensure full and meaningful participation of communities in decisions concerning the use of forest land.* *4.2.9 Trust Council holds that tree cover on the islands is of great importance and should be preserved.*	• Commercial scale logging • Clear-cutting	• Private Managed Forest Land Act • Local Government Act – Tree Protection	• Amend PMFLA to allow local governments to use Development Permit Areas to protect sensitive habitat areas, to encourage sustainable forestry practices on private managed forest lands, and to prohibit inappropriate structures in forested areas. • Permit LTCs to develop Tree Protection bylaws where appropriate for tree protection. • Ensure PMFL lands in the Trust Area are managed according to sustainability principles.	•

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4.5.1It is Trust Council's policy that aquaculture is a valuable activity in the Trust Area if compatible with maintenance of ecosystems and community character.	• Potential aquaculture expansion in sensitive areas		• Ensure provincial plans for aquaculture expansion are guided by Official Community Plans. • Remove provincial objections to OCPs that protect sensitive ecosystems and community character when aquaculture expansion is proposed.	•
4.6.1Trust Council holds that there should be no extraction of peat, metals, minerals, coal or petroleum resources in the Trust Area.	• Mining Claims	• Mineral Tenure Act	• Amend provincial tenuring system to recognize provincial object of the Islands Trust	•
	• Offshore gas exploration	•	• Exclude Islands Trust Area from development area	•
5.6.1Trust Council holds that the natural and human heritage of the Trust Area — that is the areas and property of natural, historic, cultural, aesthetic, educational or scientific heritage value or character — should be identified, preserved, protected and enhanced.	• Destruction of archaeological resources	• Local Government Act	• Permit local governments in the Trust Area to use Development Permit Areas or other tools to protect archaeological resources prior to site development.	•
5.1.1Trust Council holds that the overall visual quality of the Trust Area and its scenic values should be protected from disturbance, particularly those areas that have distinctive features or are highly visible. *5.1.2It is Trust Council's policy that the intensity of noise and lighting in and through the Trust Area should be compatible with community character.*	• Gravel extraction/quarrying		• Greater attention to infractions • Lower threshold for permits • Agreements with province regarding no-go zones for extraction.	•

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5.2.1Trust Council holds that growth and development in the Trust Area should be compatible with preservation and protection of the environment, natural amenities, resources and community character.				
4.1.2Trust Council shall consult with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the British Columbia Land Reserve Commission to request that agriculture policies applied to the Trust Area are appropriate to the nature of agriculture within the Trust Area, including, but not limited to, the smaller island scale of agricultural activities.	• Industrial agriculture	• Agricultural Land Reserve Act	• permit greater control by local government over agricultural activities that are industrial in scale or inappropriate in location	•
DEVELOPMENTMANAGEMENT ISSUES				
5.2.1Trust Council holds that growth and development in the Trust Area should be compatible with preservation and protection of the environment, natural amenities, resources and community character. *5.3.9Trust Council encourages the Ministry of Transportation and local communities to work together through a public consultation process to evaluate and modify road construction and road system proposals to encompass the environmental, economic and social values of the community.*	• road construction standards that impact on island environment and appearance	• Ministry of Transportation road construction standards	• Further reductions in road construction standards, provided safety concerns are addressed	•

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3.1.9Trust Council encourages actions and programs of other government agencies which: • *place priority on the side of protection for Trust Area ecosystems when judgment must be exercised,* • *protect the diversity of native species and habitats in the Trust Area, and* • *prevent pollution of the air, land and fresh and marine waters of the Trust Area.*	• pesticides	• Local Government Act	• Permit LTCs to restrict pesticides	•
5.2.1Trust Council holds that growth and development in the Trust Area should be compatible with preservation and protection of the environment, natural amenities, resources and community character. *5.8.1Trust Council holds that public participation should be part of the decision-making processes of all levels of government.*	• large scale projects	• Significant Projects Streamlining Act	• Exempt Islands Trust Area from over-ride of local bylaws or require consideration of the Islands Trust Act.	•
3.1.9Trust Council encourages actions and programs of other government agencies which: • *place priority on the side of protection for Trust Area ecosystems when judgment must be exercised.*	• waste management permits	• Waste Management Act	• Require permitting system to consider sensitive ecosystems	•

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COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES				
5.7.1Trust Council holds that economic opportunities should be compatible with the conservation of resources and protection of community character.	• tourism impacts on communities	•	• Provide opportunities to gain revenues for necessary infrastructure and tourism management	•
5.3.2It is Trust Council's policy that no island in the Trust Area should be connected to Vancouver Island, the mainland or another island by a bridge or tunnel, notwithstanding the existing bridge between North and South Pender Islands.	• potential for bridging between islands	• none	• Adopt provincial policy that islands will not be connected by bridges	•
3.1.9Trust Council encourages actions and programs of other government agencies which: • *place priority on the side of protection for Trust Area ecosystems when judgment must be exercised.*	• Crown land tenures	• Crown land tenure and licensing	• Recognize Islands Trust object in all programs affecting tenure and leasing of Crown lands	•
5.8.3 Trust Council holds that island communities within the Trust Area are themselves best able to determine the most effective local government structure to support their local autonomy and specific community needs within the object of the Islands Trust.	• Governance options	• Restructure options	• Provide additional options for improved governance of communities within the Islands Trust.	•
4.4.6Trust Council encourages the Provincial government to adopt legislation that protects the sustainability and quality of the groundwater of the Trust Area.	• Groundwater management	• Drinking Water Act	• Implement Phase 3 of Groundwater regulations	•

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3.1.9Trust Council encourages actions and programs of other government agencies which: • *place priority on the side of protection for Trust Area ecosystems when judgment must be exercised.*	• Provincial recognition of Islands Trust object	• All programs and ministries	• Political leadership to ensure provincial staff are familiar with and support the provincial Islands Trust object.	•

Role of Other Government and Non-Government Organizations

"Government agencies and non-government organizations can contribute greatly to the preservation and protection of the environment and amenities of the Trust Area through cooperative actions based on the Policy Statement. Cooperative actions such as protocols and mutually supportive strategies and action plans are necessary for the sustainability of the Trust Area."
- the ***Islands Trust Policy Statement***